SIBLING RIVALRY: PART 1

MARVEL NOW!

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002

FINAL

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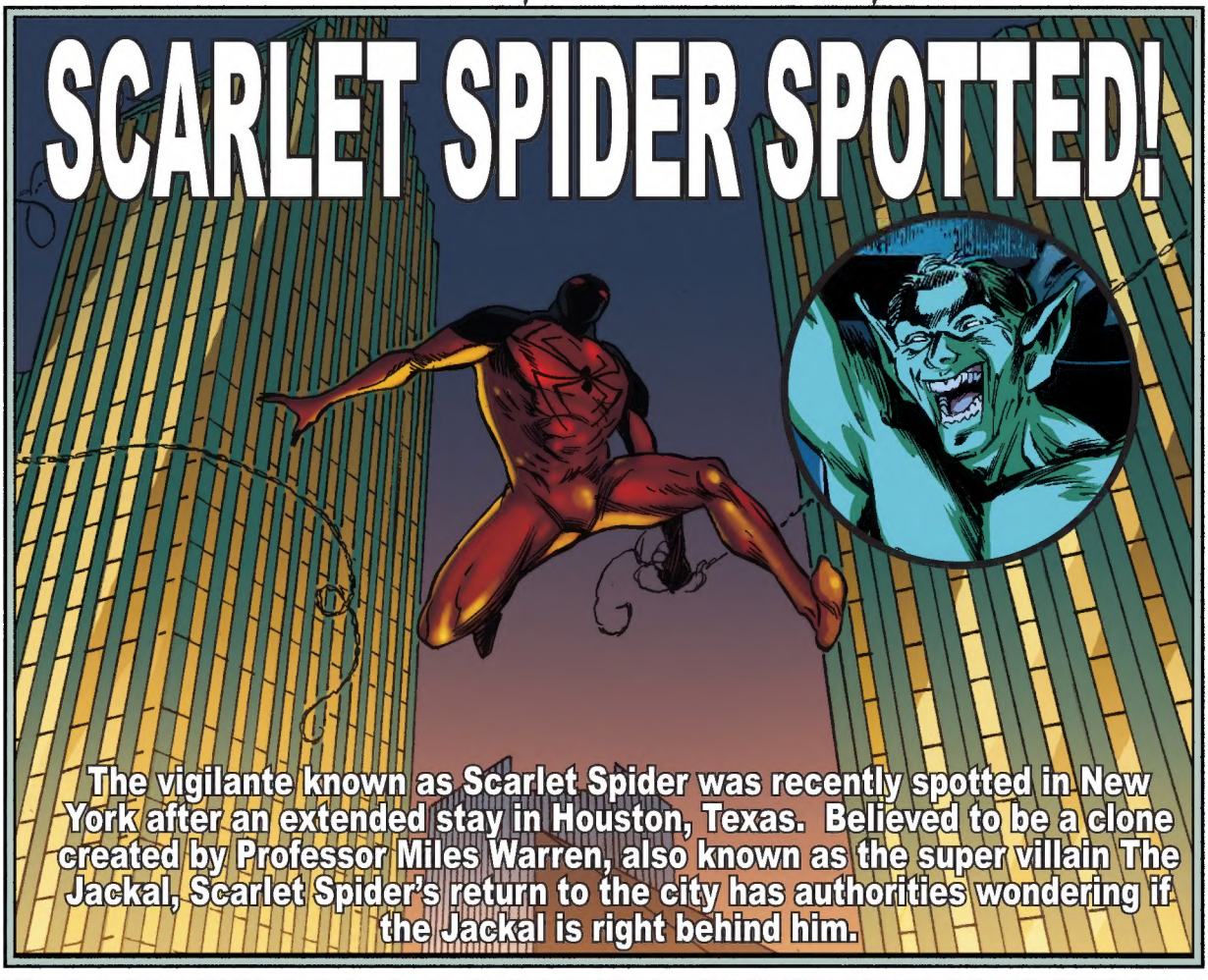
INSIDE: CARNAGE ESCAPES PRISON, PHIL URICH: HOBGOBLIN?, NEW YORK GETS A NOVA

SCARLET SPIDER SPOTTED!



The vigilante known as Scarlet Spider was recently spotted in New York after an extended stay in Houston, Texas. Believed to be a clone created by Professor Miles Warren, also known as the super villain The Jackal, Scarlet Spider's return to the city has authorities wondering if the Jackal is right behind him.

VILLAINOUS VIRUS!

Though the city's heroes have fully recovered from the Carrion virus that briefly infected them recently, they still remain on the lookout for a relapse. Was Carrion really destroyed?

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IT'S BEAUTIFUL, ISN'T IT?
TO THINK THAT ONE SMALL GENE, ONE LITTLE DEVIATION IN HUMAN DNA...
...CAN CONTAIN SO MUCH POWER.
TRIALS ARE GOING WELL.
THE LOSSES HAVE BEEN ACCEPTABLE.
AND FUN!
I LIKE THE ONES THAT SET THEMSELVES ON FIRE.
OF COURSE, ALL LOSSES ARE ACCEPTABLE WHEN YOU CAN MAKE MORE.
WHAT NOW?
NOW, I GO SEE MY BOYS.

New York City.
WHEN I SAY THAT I AM THE GREATEST SUPER HERO EVER TO WALK THE PLANET, THERE IS NO ARROGANCE AT PLAY. NO EGO.
ONLY FACT.
AS OTTO OCTAVIUS, I WAS THE WORLD'S GREATEST SUPER VILLAIN. IT ONLY MAKES SENSE THAT I WOULD EXCEL AT HEROICS AS WELL.
ALL IT TOOK WAS ELIMINATING PETER PARKER.
AGAIN.
EVERYTHING HAS FALLEN INTO PLACE.
THIS CITY AND ITS INHABITANTS ARE UNDER THE WATCHFUL EYE OF MY SPIDERS.
ANY CRIMEFIGHTING WORTHY OF MY ATTENTION, AND THEY ALERT ME.

MY LAIR AND HENCHMEN ARE COMING ALONG NICELY.
AND AFTER THE CARRION INCIDENT, I AM BEYOND REPROACH BY THE REST OF THE SUPERHUMAN COMMUNITY.
TO THINK THE AVENGERS PUT ME ON *PROBATION*. HA!
I'M A BETTER SPIDER-MAN THAN PARKER *EVER* WAS, AND FRANKLY, I'M A BETTER *PARKER* THAN HE WAS AS WELL.
HIS CAREER AT *HORIZON LABS* WAS THE PINNACLE OF HIS LITTLE SCIENTIFIC LIFE. FOR ME, IT'S A STEPPING STONE FOR WHAT'S TO COME.
I'VE EVEN BEGUN BUILDING A PERSONAL LIFE, SOMETHING PARKER NEVER SEEMED TO BE ABLE TO MAINTAIN.
SOMEONE MUCH MORE APPROPRIATE THAN HIS USUAL DALLIANCES. ACTRESSES AND POLICE OFFICERS...*PLEASE*.
THE WORLD IS MY OYSTER.
ESPECIALLY NOW THAT THE SPECTRE OF PETER PARKER IS NO LONGER HAUNTING ME.

IT WAS TRULY FASCINATING TO SEE JUST HOW MUCH EVEN THE LINGERING MEMORY OF PARKER HELD ME BACK.
AND TO COME FACE-TO-FACE WITH HIM IN BATTLE, A BATTLE OF MINDS ESPECIALLY...
...IT WAS EXHILARATING.
NOW, FINALLY, I'M FREE OF PARKER IN EVERY--
YOU'VE BEEN BUSY.
MY SPIDER-SENSE DOESN'T EVEN TWITCH.
I LIKE THE COSTUME.
IT'S A WHOLE NEW YOU, ISN'T IT?
THAT VOICE...
...IT CAN'T BE.
SHOW YOURSELF!
"SHOW YOURSELF"?
REALLY?

IS THAT ANY WAY TO GREET YOUR EVIL TWIN?
THAT COSTUME...I'VE SEEN IT BEFORE ON THE NEWS... A STORY ABOUT A NEW SPIDER-MAN IN HOUSTON, OF ALL PLACES.
SOMEONE CALLING HIMSELF THE SCARLET SPIDER.

PETER SAW IT, AND KNEW WHO IT WAS.
YOU AND I HAVE A LOT TO TALK ABOUT.
I THOUGHT IT'D BE BEST TO DO THIS FACE-TO-FACE.
I'VE BEEN WATCHING YOU FOR DAYS NOW, AND--
AND SEEING HIS FACE...MY FACE... CONFIRMS IT.
THE CLONE...
KAINE.
FOR YEARS, THIS FAILED CLONE OF PETER PARKER TORMENTED SPIDER-MAN, FOR REASONS EVEN HE DIDN'T UNDERSTAND.
AND I...I REMEMBER. THAT VOICE...I ENCOUNTERED HIM ONCE AS DOCTOR OCTOPUS. KAINE...
I REMEMBER.
KRAK!
PETER?

KRASH!!
VENGEANCE SHALL BE MINE.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
HAVE YOU LOST YOUR MIND?!
THWIP! THWIP!
YOU KNOW NOTHING ABOUT MY MIND!
BUT YOU WILL!
YOU'LL KNOW WHAT IT FEELS LIKE!
WHAT YOU DID TO ME!
YOU TOOK MY LIFE!

I PAID MY DEBT TO YOU, PETER!
I DIED FOR YOU!
ANYTHING YOU DID, YOU DID FOR HIM!
FOR SPIDER-MAN!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
...DON'T UNDERSTAND...
DON'T LIE. YOU KNOW WHY THIS IS HAPPENING. AND YOU KNEW THAT ONE DAY THIS WOULD BE THE PRICE.
I'M GOING TO--
STOP. HAVE TO THINK THIS THROUGH. SOMEONE COULD SEE, I HAVE TO COME UP WITH A WAY TO--
LOOK AT HIM. HALF THE MAN I AM. SO CONFUSED AND WEAK.
PETER...
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE KAINE THAT--
SHUT UP!

YOU THINK I DON'T KNOW THAT I'M A MONSTER? YOU THINK I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'VE DONE TO YOU?
I AM PAYING FOR MY CRIMES.
CAN BARELY THINK... HE'S STRONG... STRONGER THAN ME.
HOW IS THAT POSSIBLE?
I'M TRYING TO BE A BETTER MAN, I'M TRYING TO DO WHAT I THOUGHT YOU WANTED.
IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT...
...YOU CAN GO TO HELL.
UNH!
OUCH.
TO BE FAIR, I DID WONDER WHERE THE KAINE I HAD ENCOUNTERED WAS.
I HAVE MY ANSWER.
BUT THIS DEGENERATE, GENETIC TRASH WILL DIE AT MY HANDS. THIS I SWEAR!
AT THE HANDS OF DOCTOR--
...
NO. NOT DOCTOR OCTOPUS.

I'M NOT DOCTOR OCTOPUS, I'M THE SUPERIOR--
THWIP!
WAIT, WHAT IS HE DOING?
RRRAK!
UHN!
WANT TO KNOW WHAT I MISS MOST ABOUT BEING A SUPER VILLAIN?!
BEATING THE CRAP OUT OF YOU, YOU SELF-RIGHTEOUS--
RRAR!
UHN!
HMPH.
I DID NOT SEE THAT COMING.

I CANNOT DECIDE IF THIS IS AN INFURIATING INCONVENIENCE, OR A BLESSING IN DISGUISE.
EITHER WAY...
KAINE?
...IT WOULD SEEM THAT I AM NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO WANTS TO SEE THIS "SCARLET SPIDER" DEAD.
ZARK!
FASCINATING. THESE SPIDER-CREATURES APPEAR TO BE HALF HUMAN, HALF SPIDER WITH SOME KIND OF EX...TRA...
OH, DRAT.

"EXTRA" AS IN "X."
THEY HAVE MUTANT POWERS, AND THE SPIDER-SENSE BUZZING IN MY HEAD ISN'T THE ONLY BAD FEELING I HAVE NOW.
SEVERAL DAYS AGO, I ENCOUNTERED A MUTATED SPIDER...A SPIDER THAT HAD MUTANT POWERS.
BASED ON THE X-MEN'S ANALYSIS, IT WAS A CLONE, A HUMAN THAT HAD SPIDER AND MUTANT DNA SPLICED INTO IT.
THIS WOULD APPEAR TO BE AN EVOLUTION OF THAT THEME.
AN EVOLUTION BEING GIVEN SOME UNAPPRECIATED, DEMENTED HELP.

THIS IS NOT MY FIGHT. IF KAINE'S CREATOR WISHES HIM DEAD, MORE POWER TO HIM.
TIME FOR ME TO TAKE MY LEAVE--
TELEPORTER.
THIS IS GOING TO HURT.
TODAY STARTED OFF SO VERY WELL.
UHN!
YEAAARGH!
ENDING IT BY TAKING SWEET VENGEANCE ON MY KILLER WAS TO BE BUT ICING ON THE CAKE.
HSSS...
KILLED BY SPIDERS.
IS THIS SOME SORT OF SICK, TWISTED JUSTICE?
BREAK, DAMN YOU!
HKKK!
HEY!

GET AWAY FROM MY IDIOT BROTHER.
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?
I'M SAVING YOUR JERK LIFE.
I DO NOT NEED YOUR HELP!
SURE YOU DON'T.
ANY IDEA WHAT THESE THINGS ARE?
YOU OF ALL PEOPLE SHOULD KNOW.
WHAT?!
THIS IS IN DANGER OF GOING VERY PUBLIC.
I NEED TO END THIS...
...AND I NEED TO END HIM.
THESE MONSTERS...HM. A SOLUTION PRESENTS ITSELF. PERHAPS I CAN KILL TWO ABOMINATIONS OF SCIENCE WITH ONE STONE.

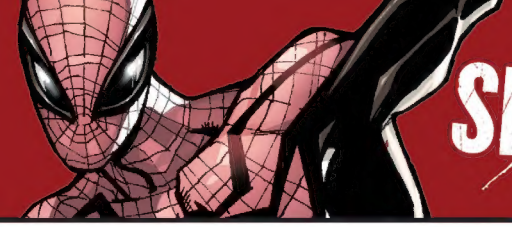
THESE CREATURES WON'T TALK.
WHO'S REALLY TO SAY WHO KILLED THE SCARLET SPIDER?
WHAM!
NYEAARGH!
FACE BURNING... WHAT WAS--
NOW, NOW...
...YOU KNOW I HATE TO SEE MY CHILDREN FIGHT.
WAIT, THAT'S NOT RIGHT.
I LOVE IT.

SHUNK
SHUNK
JACKAL...
CALL ME "DAD."
YOU'RE DEAD!
I THINK NOT.
AAAAHHH
SSSSS...
WHAT? WHAT WAS THAT? I'M HAVING A HARD TIME HEARING YOU THROUGH THE SCREAMING. YOU LOVE ME AND WANT TO COME HOME?
NO? YOU WANT TO BE PUT OUT OF YOUR MISERY?
THE JACKAL...I KNEW OF HIM EVEN BEFORE HE WENT INSANE, A GENETICIST NAMED MILES WARREN. HIS REPUTATION PRECEDED HIM.
AND CARRION... I THOUGHT I HAD DISPOSED OF HIM, BUT WHEN CLONING IS INVOLVED...
CLONE. MY CLONE.
I SEE HIS FACE, I SEE MY FACE...THEY'RE GOING TO KILL HIM.
THIS IS WHAT HE DESERVES.
HE KILLED ME.
...
HIS SCREAM... IT'S MY VOICE.

NO!
IF ANYONE IS GOING TO KILL KAINE, IT SHALL BE ME!
UHN!
AAAAH!
OOOH... NOW IT'S A PARTY.
FIRST ONE TO BRING ME A LIMB GETS A TREAT.
WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG?
INTERNAL DEBATE.

WELL, AT LEAST YOU'RE HONEST.
THE CLONE DOESN'T HOLD BACK. HE'S AIMING TO KILL THESE CREATURES... SOMETHING HE DIDN'T INHERIT FROM PARKER.
I RESPECT THIS.
BUT HE HAS NO STRATEGY, NO THOUGHT BEHIND HIS ACTS. I CAN USE THIS AGAINST HIM LATER, BUT FOR NOW...
...IT LEAVES HIM OPEN.
DEAL WITH THIS ONE, I'LL HANDLE WARREN.
WHAT--?
HT!
KRK!
NO! JACKAL IS MINE!
TELL THE TRUTH...YOU MISSED ME, DIDN'T YOU?
I'LL MISS HURTING YOU, YOU DERANGED--
SHRAK!
YEARGH!

HALF IGNORING SPIDER-SENSE TO GET TO JACKAL...COULDN'T MOVE IN TIME...
WHO---?
I'M SORRY, PETER.
GWEN STACY.
THE GIRLFRIEND OF PETER PARKER...UNTIL SHE DIED.
THE DAUGHTER OF POLICE CAPTAIN GEORGE STACY...
...UNTIL MY ACTIONS KILLED HIM.
PASSING OUT... THE CLONE CAN BARELY STAND...
THIS... THIS IS NOT...
THIS IS GOING TO BE GOOD.
To Be Concluded In SCARLET SPIDER #20, On Sale Now!



SUPERIOR SPIDER-MAN TEAM-UP

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